

NOVEMBER 26, 2014

e Connect

Star of the Sea School

"Where Learning Never Stops"

Volume 1, Issue 4

Star Students "Step Up to the Plate" to Strike Out Hunger on Oahu



Thanksgiving blessings to you all! A special thank you to all of our Star families, faculty and staff who helped to make this years Thanksgiving food drive a big success. Food donations will be shared with both our local parish families in need along with the residents of Maili Land.

Meanwhile, our annual 5th grade Thanksgiving Mass celebrations took place this past Tuesday. Led by 5th grade teacher Mrs. Zbin, our fifth graders took us back to the first Thanksgiving feast held in the autumn of 1621 by the Pilgrims and the Wampanoag to celebrate the colony's first successful harvest. The students delivered their messages of thanks with poise, confidence and sincerity.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

November 28

**Na Hoku Choir Performance –
Kahala Mall @ 12:00 pm**

November 30

Season of Advent begins

December 8

**Mass of The Immaculate
Conception**

Flu Shot

**Giving Tree contributions
due**



A message from the Interim Principal



November has been a busy time at Star of the Sea. A special thank you to our intermediate and 6th grade parents who attended our Middle School Orientation

Night. The event provided Ms. Veresan, Lead Teacher and Middle School Level chair, along with myself, the opportunity to speak about how our effective middle school program spiritually, academically and socially prepares our 8th graders for success in their higher education. Our special guest speakers included both current 8th grade students and parents, along with three SOS alumni.

November 30 will mark the beginning of the Advent season. The word "advent," from the Latin adventus, means "arrival." The Advent Season is focused on the coming of our Lord, Jesus. Two of the most common traditional Christian symbols of advent are the advent wreath and calendar. Both are used in ceremonial ways to make us aware of the wait and to mark the countdown to Jesus' arrival. If you haven't already planned to integrate either tradition in your home, there are plenty of advent wreath and calendar ideas on the web for you to use as a resource.

May this holiday season bring you an abundance of peace, love, and health.

God Bless,

Margaret Rufo



Tis the Season to be "Giving"

Our **Giving Tree** kick off began this past week. 8th graders facilitated the event by inviting each class down to the church to select a gift ornament from the tree.

Our traditional request is to have each Star of the Sea family contribute one gift to our Catholic Charities service project. Families, however, are welcome to come down to the church and select additional gift ornaments if they wish.

Due to a change in procedures, this year, we are asking that the gifts be sent to school unwrapped by no later than **December 8**.



Rina Robin is our School's Spelling Bee Champion!

Congratulations to the 25 middle school spellers who participated in this year's school wide spelling bee. The bee was held in the church and finally after 9 rounds of words, 7th grader, Rina Robin was declared our champion. Runner up champion was awarded to sixth grader Jack Hong. Rina and Jack will represent Star of the Sea at the upcoming District Bee that is scheduled in January.



4th Grade Chefs

Project based learning has been proven to be one of the best ways to engage students in academic learning and develop social skills. Our 4th graders recently participated in a project based activity by making pumpkin pies in our school cafeteria. Our young bakers practiced their measuring, following directions and cooperative group learning skills while filling up our cafeteria with the wonderful scent of baked pies. A special thank you to our volunteer parents and 4th grade teachers, Mrs. Young and Mrs. McMahon for making this such an enjoyable life learning activity. The best part, of course, was when we all got to dig in!



Middle School Dance

It may not be snowing in Hawaii, but our Student Council hosted a Winter Wonderland themed dance for their Middle School classmates. Students arrived elegantly dressed and danced in style. The evening was filled with great music and lots of fun!



STUDENTS GET HANDS ON EXPERIENCE WITH “THE GREENER WAY” OF LIFE



As you can see by the various barricades and machinery throughout campus, the photovoltaic (PV) project is still in progress. All the major drilling is completed and classroom disruptions will be minimal. Electrical preparations are next on the to do list, before the official installation of the panels. By Christmas, our Church and Schools will be generating solar energy!

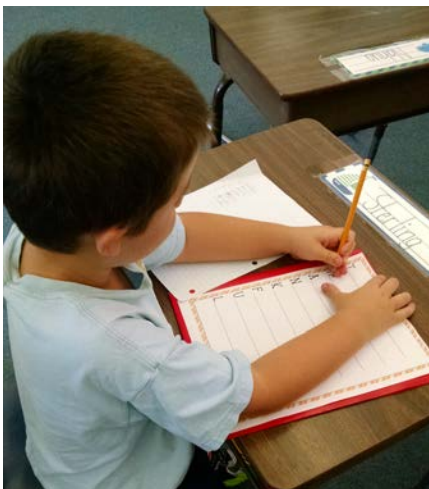
Meanwhile, HNU Energy project manager, Jared Libby spent Tuesday afternoon speaking to our students about the project and the benefits of solar panels. The students were extremely engaged in what Jared had to share and environmental awareness was certainly emphasized. As Oahu residents are becoming more environmentally conscious, solar energy, as can be seen throughout the island, has become a major initiative.

Pictured are 6th grade students displaying their project-based hand made solar ovens. The ovens were made in class, taking into consideration the important elements of heat retention, solar reflection and panel angles. The students tested out their ovens by making nachos and cheese and Smors treats. The successful project made for a delicious mid afternoon snack.

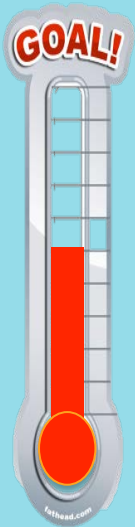


Feeling Thankful in 2B

The students of 2B are feeling very thankful this November. This past week, they brainstormed anything they could think of that they might be thankful for. After brainstorming, students used the word "thankful" to create an acrostic poem. It turns out that 2B is thankful for many different things! Some include: Turkey, Houses, America, Nature, Kind People, Family, Universe and life.



PTG News



BOX TOP UP DATE

Congratulations Star Families. We are off to a great Box Top start this year. Thank you to all those who sent in their box tops!

We have already reached the half way mark to our \$1,000.00 target. Quarterly collections will be made and class rewards will be honored to the top collectors from each division.

Our first quarter winner for the primary classes is 3A, our intermediate box top winning class is 4A, and our middle school box top winners are our 8th graders. First quarter winners will soon be receiving an ice cream treat. Keep collecting those box tops!

PTG HOLIDAY BAKE SALE

The PTG would like to invite you to participate in its annual holiday bake sale. The



sale will take place following our Christmas performance on December 19. Your baked goods may be delivered to your child's homeroom teacher or front office, Thursday, December 18 or the morning of the performance. A detailed PTG flyer for the bake sale is forthcoming. Proceeds of the sale will be put towards a new school sign.

Making Veteran's Day more meaningful



Friday, November 14th, Petty Officer Scassero and Sergeant Jenkins visited Star of the Sea to talk about their jobs in the military. The students had many interesting questions such as, "What branch of the military are you in?, How big is your base?, When you're on the submarine, what kind of food do you eat? What bases have you been stationed at?" along with many, many others. The men discussed what it was like to be in the military and what is expected of you when you join. The kids enjoyed it so much that they requested autographs from their heroes!



Star of the Sea School earns the Catholic School's League Boys Consolation Volleyball Championship Trophy

Congratulations to this year's Catholic School League Consolation Champs!

Back Row: Lance Tan, Micah Lacro, and Tim Johnson

Middle Row: Kainalu Iaea and Keau Thompson

Front Row: Matthew Horiuchi and Cody Oshiro



6th Grade MARKET DAY

Our 6th graders experienced a taste of entrepreneurship on Tuesday, November 25. Middle School English teacher, Mrs. Green taught the students about business planning, marketing and selling strategies. They also learned that the lowest price may not necessarily guarantee the most sales. Added value was a sales strategy that proved to be successful among many of the sellers. Market bucks were given to the entire school to purchase delicious treats including freshly popped popcorn, sushi, hotdogs, cupcakes, and freshly squeezed lemonade! Market Day is a traditional extension assignment to their novel studies of the "The Lemonade War" written by Jacqueline Davis.



Turkey Talk

Turkey Talk is an annual tradition at Star of the Sea School!

First graders enjoyed spending time talking about traditional Thanksgiving rituals with their Eighth Grade buddies.

